Prelpanat A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4

9 2002

APPLICANT(s):

SCHWARZ, R

TRADEL RIDI. NO .

09/938,274

ART UNIT:

FILING DATE:

August 23, 2001

EXAMINER:

TITLE:

SECURE POSTAGE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

ATTORNEY .

DOCKET NO.:

770P009577-US (C01)

Box Missing Parts Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the Response to a Notice of Missing Parts dated September 17, 2001.

Please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph starting on page 1, line 1:

This is a continuation of Application No. 08/973,293, filed December 1, 1997, now allowed, which was the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US97/06831, filed April 23, 1997, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/016,082, filed on April 23, 1996, U.S. Provisional